REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed June 20, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as non-statutory subject matter; rejected claims 1, 6, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 20030212818 to Klein et al. (Klein); and rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 20030053459 to Brouk et al. (Brouk).

By this amendment, Applicants amend claim 6 to respond to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101; amend claim 2 to further define features of that claim; and amend claim 11 to improve form. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced since the claim amendments are supported by the specification (see, e.g., paragraphs 0015, 0016, 0025, and 0026).

Claims 1-15 are currently pending.

Rejection of Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. To expedite prosecution, however, Applicants have made amendments to claim 6 to obviate the basis for the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Accordingly, claim 6 and claims 7-10, at least by reason of their dependency from independent claims 6, are statutory subject matter, and thus the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 of claims 6-10 should be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 6, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Klein. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

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Claim 1 recites a combination of features including, among other things, "defining a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the message, the context object stored in a repository" and "assigning the context object to one or more interfaces through which the message is to be communicated." The Examiner appears to allege that Klein at paragraph 100 and 101 discloses these noted features of claim 1.

However, a careful scrutiny of Klein reveals that Klein's so-called "message context" is not an abstraction of the content of the message." Instead, Klein's message context relates to properties of the message. Klein, paragraphs 100 and 101. Because Klein fails to disclose the claimed "context object," Klein fails to disclose at least the following feature of claim 1: "defining a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the message, the context object stored in a repository." Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Klein, and the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 11, although of different scope, includes features that are similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1. For at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1, independent claims 6 and 11 are not anticipated by Klein, and the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Brouk. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner appears to allege that Brouk's use of routing scripts discloses the "context objects," as recited in claim 1. Office Action, page 4. Applicants disagree

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because the routing scripts merely route rather than constitute a "context object being an abstraction of content of the message," as recited in claim 1. Nor do such routing scripts enable access to the message content, as recited in claim 1. As such, Brouk's routing scripts cannot possibly constitute a "context object," much less "defining a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the message, the context object stored in a repository. Because Brouk lacks any disclosure regarding a context object, Brouk also fails to disclose "assigning the context object to one or more interfaces through which the message is to be communicated," as recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Klein, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) of claim 1 and claims 2-5, at least by reason of their dependency from independent claim 1, should be withdrawn.

Claims 6 and 11, although of different scope, includes features that are similar to those noted above with respect to claim 1. For at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1, independent claims 6 and 11 and claims 7-10 and 12-15, at least by reason of their dependency from corresponding independent claims 6 and 11, are not anticipated by Klein, and the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Claim 2 recites "defining a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the message, the context object, stored in a repository, including criteria to enable reuse across different interfaces, the context object providing the criteria for determining one or more send steps at an interface." Brouk's properties cannot constitute a context object, much less a context object with the noted features

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recited in claim 2. Accordingly, claim 2 is not anticipated by <u>Brouk</u>, and the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn for this additional reason.
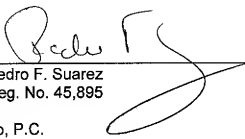
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner. Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner continue to dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. No fee is believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-090/2003P00732US.

Respectfully submitted,

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